

# GOULD'S SECRET MARRIAGE TO STAGE BEAUTY ADDS TO FAMILY'S RECORD FOR ODD ROMANCES

### Financier Followed in Footsteps of Son Whom He Criticized for Wedding Girl Without Rank or Fortune—One Daughter Eloped From Philadelphia

### SOCIETY IS STILL GASPING AT NEWS GEORGIAN COURT HAS BRAND-NEW MISTRESS

### Fell in Love With Edith Kingdon on Night of Triumph at Daly's—Mysterious Bride Is Described as of Great Charm, With Three Children

THE world of international society is agog once more over a new romance in the house of Gould, the details of which are now inducing comment and speculation in two continents.

The ample railroad millions of the head of the family house, George J. Gould, Sr., now in his fifty-ninth year, have once more enfolded a fair flower of the stage as the result of a secret marriage on May 1 at Lakewood, N. J.

The marriage came to light two months and twelve days afterward, or just eight months to the day after the sudden death of Mr. Gould's first charming actress-wife on the golf links of Lakewood.

Of the second bride, twenty-nine years old and known prior to her marriage, first as Miss Vere Sinclair and later as Mrs. Alice Sinclair, there is little definite social data beyond the principal facts of her limited career under the glare of the spots and footlights. Reputed to be charming and cultured, she was known to neighbors at Rye, N. Y., and in New York City for her grace, gentleness and winsomeness.

Judge Harry Newman, President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Ocean County, New Jersey, who united her in wedlock with Mr. Gould, gives definite testimony of her youthful and blonde pulchritude, as does the camera.



Mrs. G. J. Gould in two poses



"She Loves Me, She Loves Me Not"—two of Mrs. Gould's children, Jane and George, playing this time-honored game on the Manursing Island estate at Rye, N. Y.

Dispatches from London note that she was a member of the London Gaiety Company of George Edwards that played "The Girl on the Film" at the Forty-fourth Street Theatre in New York. She acted as an understudy to Miss Emmy Wehlen, star of the piece, in 1914, from which period dates her acquaintance and ripening friendship with Mr. Gould.

According to George Grossmith, English comedian, it was he who presented Mr. Gould to his future bride.

#### Company Went Back Home But Actress Stayed Here

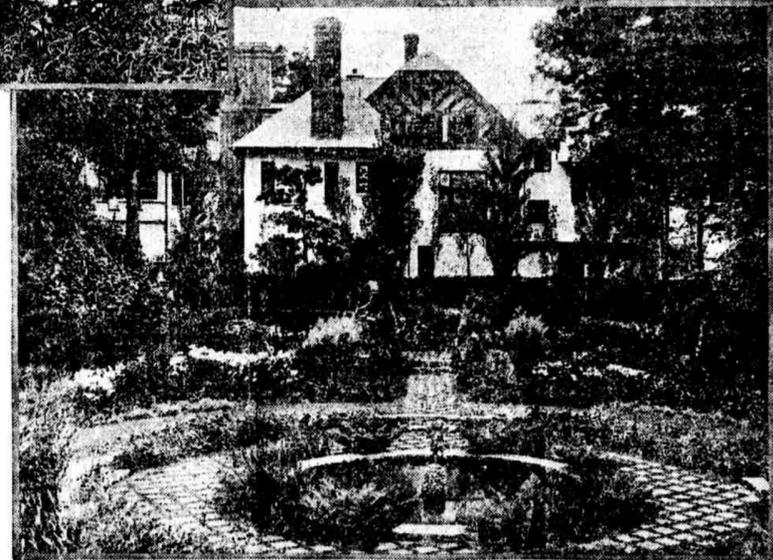
Although "The Girl on the Film" was too English for New York and failed to achieve a financial success, those who did see the show commented on the fact that Mr. Gould seemed especially interested in it and repeatedly attended performances. When the company returned to England it was without Miss Sinclair.

One story from a friend of Mr. Gould has it that she had been born in Ohio somewhere, but stage folk say she was a native of England. The marriage record shows she was born in "Dakota." Mr. Gould and Miss Sinclair were often seen together on Fifth avenue in brisk 5 o'clock walks. According to the club gossips along that thoroughfare, there was everything in the young woman's striking appearance to commend her as a walking companion.

The prepossessing young actress, it is well known, had lived for the last eight years in a style befitting the future wife of the head of the house of Gould. Enmeshed latterly in a town house, opposite the imposing mansion of Charles M. Schwab, on Riverside Drive, at 223 West Seventy-fourth street, only a few steps from the drive, she was mistress of a Rolls-Royce car bearing her initials in gold.

Mr. Gould, whose interest in Mrs. Sinclair had remained steadfast during the years of the war and its aftermath, was a frequent visitor there, often driving up in a small coupe with a French chauffeur during the day for several hours.

In 1915, inquiring New York reporters learned, Miss Sinclair took up residence in an old-time but com-



Italian gardens in the home of the former Mrs. Vere Sinclair at Manursing Island, N. Y.

fortable house on the Boston post road, near Quaker Ridge, which stands far back from the road, its lawn surrounded by a tall, heavy hedge. She had never figured in any publicity, newspaper files indicate, since she left the London Gaiety ranks.

About six years ago the attractive young woman moved to a beautiful residence on the hill of Manursing Island, Rye, N. Y., on Long Island Sound, which is connected with the mainland by a roadway. Her property adjoined that of W. H. Browning, of Browning, King & Co. Neighbors noted that true to English type in sports, as in looks, she was fond of riding, driving, skating and other outdoor diversions.

#### Gould Often Entertained at Home of Actress

Mr. Gould brought up frequent yachting parties for entertainments at the island, his yacht often being moored there. He spent extended periods at Rye, playing tennis frequently on the club courts.

In spite of the fact that the present Mrs. Gould's origin and family history are known to few, those who have known her with any degree of intimacy speak highly of her unusual abilities. She has studied and mastered sports, riding, fishing, shooting and tennis, and acquired a notable knowledge of finance and business and corporation management.

Details now available reveal that at 10 o'clock on the morning of May 1, last, Mrs. Sinclair became the May Day queen of the master of Georgian Court in the home of Judge Newman. Only three persons witnessed the ceremony. They were Mrs. Newman, wife of the jurist; J. Scudder Fisher, treasurer of Lakewood Township, and Miss Beatrice Hoskins, of 323 West Seventy-

fourth street, New York, the address of the bride's town house.

The bride was attired for the occasion in a simple traveling gown and hat and wore flowers. So attired she was after the ceremony that she went with joy, according to Judge Newman, she was kissed first by her husband, who took her to his arms, and later by all three witnesses. The reading of the civil marriage form and the later service of a more solemn nature, employing the ring of marriage, consumed only about five minutes.

Thereafter the happy and beaming bride and bridegroom, remained in the house for an hour before going to the wedding, where they remained in solitude for several days before returning to New York. Neither friends nor relatives of the bridegroom knew of the wedding, so far as his own learned until very recently, when Mr. Gould called his invitation to his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll L. Wainwright, that they join him and his bride at a place he had taken for the summer and autumn at Inverness-Shire, Scotland.

#### Advance Plans Were Made for Quiet Honeymoon

Mr. Gould has seven adult children and his bride has three. Her children, the oldest six, the youngest born last April, often have been seen with her at Rye and at her town house in New York.

Mr. Gould and his bride are spending their honeymoon at the French watering place of Aix-les-Bains. They are said to have derived much amusement from the secrecy of their wedding, and their only regret is that it

has been discovered before the honeymoon was ended.

The marriage, it was said, was decided, upon for some time before it took place, but was postponed until all arrangements could be made for their trip to Europe together. They sailed from New York together on board the Berengaria, and made a short stay in London, crossing for Paris at the end of the week and registering at the Hotel Maurice on July 4. The Goulds were accompanied by the Drexel-Biddle family, who, after three days, went on with the honeymooners to Aix, and later went to their own home at Biarritz.

Only one son-in-law of Mr. Gould, Mr. Wainwright, has broken the silence of the family. He has admitted that his wife, who was Miss Edith Gould, had received the cablegram from her father notifying her of his second marriage, and telling her that he had taken a place in Inverness-Shire, for the remainder of the summer.

#### Under the will of his first wife, who was Edith Maughan Kingdon, once in the theatrical company of the late Augustin Daly, Mr. Gould sacrifices through his second marriage all claim to residential and personal property valued at between two and three million dollars. This is due to a three-word phrase, "until he remarries," in the disposing instrument. His interest was for life in the Gould town house at Fifth avenue and Sixty-seventh street, an imposing mansion, and also in a house at 177 East Sixty-fourth street.

As a matter of fact, it is related in New York that announcement was made months ago that the beautiful Fifth avenue residence had been placed



Mrs. Edith Kingdon Gould

on the realty market, which would seem to have pre-indicated his forthcoming marriage. When these residential properties are now sold the proceeds will revert to the residuary estate of the late Mrs. Gould to be divided among the seven children of Mr. Gould by his first marriage.

These children are George J. Gould, Jr., Kingdon and Jay Gould, Lady Decies, Mrs. Anthony J. Drexel, Jr., Mrs. Wainwright and Gloria Gould, the youngest. The latter is in the care of Miss Caroline Coris, who for many years was a personal friend and secretary of the late Mrs. Gould.

#### Appeared With Noted Stars of New York Stage

The first Mrs. Gould died on November 13, when playing golf with her husband, just after a tee shot on the links at Lakewood. She had appeared to be in the best of health when she went to the links. When she had made a shot she uttered an exclamation, and when Mr. Gould turned about she was unconscious on the turf.

that a stage career was decided upon for her.

Her first appearance in New York was at the old Daly Theatre in 1884 in a comedy, "The Wooden Spoon." In the following month she had a role in "Love on Crutches," one of the great Daly successes, in which were John Drew and Mrs. Gilbert.

Before her New York appearances Edith Kingdon had played for a year in stock at Boston. In October, 1885, she made one of the greatest successes of her career in "The Magistrate," a Pinner comedy, and in January, 1886, she played Anne Page in "The Merry Wives of Windsor."

Later in the spring of 1886 Mr. Daly took his company to London, where came the culminating and most brilliant success of Miss Kingdon, after which her stage career ended. Mrs. Kingdon invariably accompanied her daughter while she was on the stage, and after their return to New York it became known through the mother that Miss Kingdon was to wed George J. Gould, eldest son of the financier, Jay Gould.

Mr. Gould's first wedding took place on September 14, 1886, at Lakewood, the country place of Mr. and Mrs. Jay Gould, Irvington-on-Hudson. This place is now occupied by Mrs. Finley J. Shepard, formerly Miss Helen Gould.

The first Mrs. Gould was one of those unusually rare women of New York society who combined charming social graces with the most devoted domesticity. She was a married in many ways to her friends, and her beauty and grace of figure were the envy of women much her junior in years.

While giving much of her time to social duties, she made all of her children the objects of her devoted care, and their achievements and wholesome good looks were the best proof of her success as a mother.

Margerie, the oldest daughter, after having spurned the dozens of titled lordlings of Europe who wished to marry her, became engaged to and subsequently wedded Anthony J. Drexel, son of the Philadelphia multi-millionaire, Vicen, the next eldest daughter, was fond of study and serious things. In their young manhood, Jay and Kingdon, the eldest boys, neither smoked nor drank. "I have heard other mothers say they could not keep their boys at home," said Mrs.

with Miss Kingdon was in precisely the same fashion that he became interested in the second—through the medium of a stage performance.

When playing the role of Mrs. Margery Gwynn, the widow in the comedy, "Love on Crutches," she made a tremendous hit overnight at Daly's. A modest and unassuming young woman, she was unconscious of the success she had achieved. After the close of the second act she hurried downstairs to her dressing room to change for the next scene.

The tumultuous applause of the audience was continued long and Miss Ada Rehan and Mr. Drew came out and bowed. They were followed by Mrs. Gilbert and Otis Skinner. The applause continued undiminished until the entire company with the exception of one came out. Then Mr. Daly even made his appearance, but still the uproar continued.

The audience, believing the young widow was being deliberately kept in the background, broke into a small riot and began shouting "Kingdon! Kingdon!"

#### Gould Fell in Love in Twinkle of an Eye

The young actress was hastily sent for, but in response to the entreaties of the stage manager she declared she couldn't come out as she was in transition from one gown to another.

"Never mind that," he whispered through the keyhole, "you can throw a shawl over your shoulders. You must go out or there will be a real riot."

She seized a lace wrap, drew it over her shoulders and ran upstairs. She pulled an edge of the curtain aside, peeped out smilingly at the audience and blushingly nodded her thanks. Old Jay Gould and his son George sat in the proscenium box, which they always occupied at Daly's first nights.

George Gould caught the twinkle of the pretty actress' eye and fell helplessly in love.

Next day the artless and public alike gazed over the talent and beauty of Edith Kingdon. But the sentiment she had aroused in the heart of the dark-complexioned young man was more lasting than the public applause.

The business manager of Daly's was an old gentleman named John Duff, who was hard like on masher and deadheads, and he saw to it that the front and stage doors of the theatre alike were well guarded.

George Gould was on friendly terms with him and demanded an introduction. Duff told him bluntly: "Now here, Mr. Gould, Miss Kingdon is a lady and so long as I have anything to say in the matter she must be treated with the utmost consideration and respect. If you want to meet her under those conditions I guess it can be managed."

Mr. Gould reassured him and the introduction was effected. The courtship was swift and silent. One morning the match-making mamma of America were horrified to learn that the wealthiest young man in America was married to an actress.

Some shook their heads ruefully and others sneeringly, and said Mr. Gould should have married into one of the old families.

The new bride bids fair to become the principal heir of the husband, who is just twice her age, though a still active and vigorous man. If she lives she will become upon his death no doubt one of the world's wealthiest widows, as George J. Gould's fortune is estimated today at \$150,000,000, even after some heavy losses in railroad ventures in the last ten years.

George J. Gould, Jr., married Miss Laura Carter July 25, 1917, and there were later reports of a family rumour. The elder Gould did not "exactly approve of the marriage," according to his son.

"He thought," said the young man, "that I ought to marry some one with more financial and social standing than I had selected. Contrary to reports, my wife and I are not on the stage. She was a high school graduate and at the time of the wedding was living with her aunt, Mrs. E. J. Callahan, at Freehold, N. J. She was not wealthy and did not at the time belong to the New York social set. It is self-evident that I married her simply because I loved her."

Other matrimonial surprises in the Gould clan came with the marriage of George Gould's eldest son, Kingdon, and Miss Annabella Coris, a violinist, first to Kingdon's sister, Vivian, and the Elton's daughter of George Gould's daughter Edith with Carroll Wainwright.

And now the father has done just what he criticized his son for doing years ago.

The girl early developed dramatic talent and often appeared with amateurs in Brooklyn, and her talent was so marked

How the husband fell in love



Waiting at the gate for George